

**SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

SUBJECT: Amendment to The Seminole County Fire Municipal Taxing Unit (MSTU)
Ordinance

DEPARTMENT: Fiscal Services **DIVISION:** Administration

AUTHORIZED BY: Cindy Hall **CONTACT:** Lin Polk **EXT.** 7177

Agenda Date <u>12/10/02</u> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Work Session <input type="checkbox"/> Briefing <input type="checkbox"/>
Public Hearing – 1:30 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing – 7:00 <input type="checkbox"/>

MOTION/RECOMMENDATION:

Approval and authorization for Chairman to amend the Seminole County Fire Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) ordinance to include the City of Altamonte Springs.

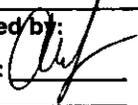
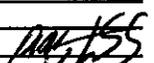
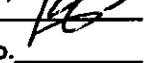
BACKGROUND:

Seminole County and the City of Altamonte Springs entered into an interlocal agreement for the expansion of the Seminole County Fire MSTU, for fire and emergency medical service provisions, to include the incorporated area of the City of Altamonte Springs.

Pursuant to Section 125.0101, Florida Statutes, the Board of County Commissioners is authorized to contract with a municipality for the provision of essential public services including fire protection.

The City of Altamonte Springs has enacted its ordinance consenting to the expansion of the Seminole County Fire Unit, pursuant to Section 125.01(q), Florida Statutes.

The attached ordinance authorizes the expansion of the Seminole County Fire Unit and includes the annual millage for the City within the City's (10) mil statutory cap. The millage would be formulated on the current tax base (unincorporated Seminole County; exempting agricultural properties) and the municipality of Altamonte Springs. The millage levy will be set by the Board of County Commissioners, as the governing board of the Seminole County Fire Unit.

Reviewed by:	
Co Atty:	_____
DFS:	_____
Other:	_____
DCM:	
CM:	
File No.	_____

Adoption of this ordinance would enable a millage rate to be established during the FY 2003/04 budget process for the program and subsequently levied on the November 2003 tax bill.

A notice of the enactment of this ordinance was published in a newspaper of general circulation.

ORDINANCE NO. _____ - _____

SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA AMENDING CHAPTER 160, PART I, ARTICLE II, SECTION 160.12, SEMINOLE COUNTY CODE; PROVIDING FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE SEMINOLE COUNTY FIRE UNIT MUNICIPAL SERVICES TAXING UNIT TO INCLUDE THE ENTIRE INCORPORATED AREA OF THE CITY OF ALTAMONTE SPRINGS; PROVIDING THAT THE ANNUAL MILLAGE SHALL BE WITHIN THE STATUTORY CAP OF 10 MILLS WITH RESPECT TO THE CITY OF ALTAMONTE SPRINGS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Section 125.0101, Florida Statutes authorizes Seminole County to contract with a municipality for the provision of essential public services including fire protection; and

WHEREAS, Section 160.12 of the Seminole County Code specifically envisions and authorizes the extension of the Seminole County Fire Unit Municipal Service Taxing Unit (the "Seminole County Fire Unit") to areas within an incorporated municipality through adoption of a special mutual aid agreement; and

WHEREAS, Seminole County (the "County") and the City of Altamonte Springs (the "City") have heretofore entered into an Interlocal Agreement on July 9, 2002 (the "Agreement") for the County to take over and provide fire and emergency medical services to the City; and

WHEREAS, Section 4.3.3 of the Agreement envisions the expansion of the County's Fire Unit MSTU for the provision of fire and emergency medical services to the City and that the millage therefore, will be included within the City's 10 mill statutory cap; and

WHEREAS, the City has heretofore enacted its Ordinance consenting to the expansion of the Seminole County Fire Unit to include all of the incorporated area of the City in accordance with Section 125.01(q), Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the County hereby finds and declares that expansion and utilization of the Seminole County Fire Unit is the most

appropriate and cost effective method to facilitate the assumption of such fire and emergency medical services as were previously performed by the City,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 160.12 of the Seminole County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 160.12 Established.

(a) There is hereby established a municipal service taxing unit encompassing all the territories of the County other than those territories which are now, or may hereafter be, either within the corporate limits of any municipality, or agriculturally assessed for ad valorem taxation purposes. Said Fire Unit is established for the purpose of providing fire protection and prevention, and rescue/emergency medical services for all inhabitants, properties and land within the described territories, or such other territories as may be included by special mutual aid agreement. Said protection and prevention is hereby declared to be a service of the kind or type commonly provided by municipalities.

(b) The Seminole County Fire Unit shall also include the entire incorporated area of the City of Altamonte Springs, Florida. The millage to be levied shall be set annually by the Board of County Commissioners sitting as the governing board of the Seminole County Fire Unit and shall, with respect to the City, be included within the City's statutory cap of ten (10) mills.

Section 3. Codification.

It is the intention of the Board of County Commissioners that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become, and be made a part of the Seminole County Code. The word "Ordinance" may be changed to section, article, or other appropriate word or phrase and the sections of this Ordinance may be assigned new numbering or lettering

to accomplish such intention; providing, however, that Sections 2, 3, and 4 shall not be codified.

Section 4. Severability.

If any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

Section 5. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall become effective upon the filing of a certified copy thereof with the Florida Department of State.

ENACTED this 10th day of December, 2002.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Chairman

ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

DATE: December 2002 DEPT./DIVISION: Fiscal Services /
Administration

CONTACT PERSONS: Cindy Hall EXTENSION: #7172

DESCRIBE PROJECT/PROPOSAL:

Expansion of the Seminole County Fire Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) ordinance to include the City of Altamonte Springs.

DESCRIBE THE DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE PROJECT/PROPOSAL UPON THE OPERATION OF THE COUNTY:

Fire and emergency medical services as well as the costs for the services will be expanded to include all of the incorporated area of the City. Seventy-two (72) additional staff members were added to County employment along with supporting expenditures.

The levy assessed for the MSTU will generate approximately \$9 million, which is based on the 2002 gross taxable value of real property in Altamonte Springs.

DESCRIBE THE DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE PROJECT/PROPOSAL UPON THE PROPERTY OWNERS/TAX PAYERS/CITIZENS WHO ARE EXPECTED TO BE AFFECTED:

The citizens of the City of Altamonte Springs will be provided with cost effective, proficient fire and emergency services. The properties within the City will be levied the millage rate established for the Seminole County Fire MSTU, as approved by the Board of County Commissioners. For the current year, that millage is 2.6334 or \$197.50 for a homesteaded property valued at \$100,000.

IDENTIFY ANY POTENTIAL INDIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACTS, POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE WHICH MIGHT OCCUR AS A RESULT OF THE PROJECT PROPOSAL:

Long-term impacts should be positive for the City and the County since the merging of services is the most appropriate and cost effective method of facilitating activities previously performed by both entities.

It is estimated that over seven years, the consolidation will generate savings from deleted positions and cost avoidance amounting to an estimated total of \$6.5 million for both the City and the County.